(b) Statewise export data are not maintained. However, exports to tobacco have registered an increase of 11.9% in rupee terms (2% in dollar terms) during April-January 1993-94 as compared to the corresponding period in 1992-93.

(c) The Revised Exim Policy 1992-97, *inter alia*, aims at augmenting the productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian agriculture industry and services so as to enhance their export potential and capabilities. It seeks to encourage the attainment of internationally accepted standards of quality and thereby improve the image of India's products abroad.

Set back to Indian Granite Exports

5299. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 318 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18th April, 1994 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the imposition of 89 per cent duty on thick slabs and monuments of black granite by Canada has come as a set back to Indian granite industry, particularly in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, whether Government would counter this politicoeconomic move by the Canadian Government and dispel the lack of understanding among the Canadians about the true status of Indian granite industry ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Canada has imposed provisional anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imports of black granite memorials and black granite slabs from India.

The investigation is continuing and a final determination is yet to be made by the Canadian authorities. Government is providing necessary permission to the Canadian authorities to clarify the correct factual position.

Sale of Gold by MMTC

5300. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has a proposal to sell 24 carat gold during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the present stock position of gold with MMTC;

(c) whether the gold would be sold in various cities of the country; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for selling gold by MMTC ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Stock position of gold with MMTC is as under :—

(For domestic distribution)

As on 1-4-94	10.34	Kgs.
arrival of gold during April, 1994	20.00	Kgs.
TOTAL :	30.34	Kgs.